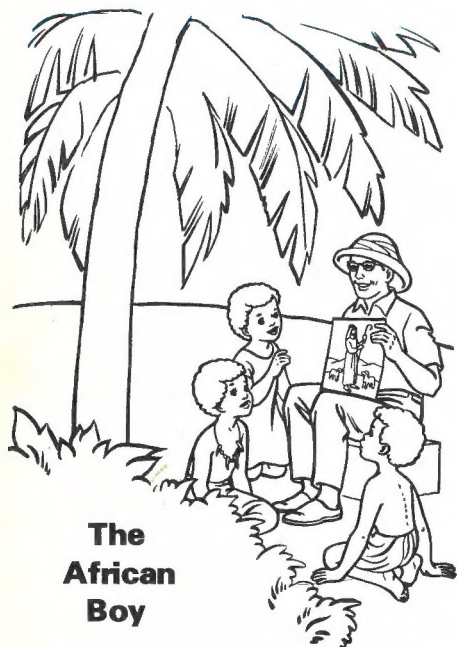


VOL. 78 - PART 3
FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 1976

Messages of the Love of God



**The
African
Boy**

Fred Arnot, the missionary, was one day traveling through the African jungle. He was tired and thirsty after walking many miles, so he entered into a hut to rest a little while.

The native children gathered around and gazed with deep wonder at the missionary, for they had never seen a white man before. Mr. Arnot had a sweet smile which won the hearts of many of the children. They came closer, encouraged by his smile, and at last one little fellow drew nearer than the rest and in his own artless manner he gave expression to his puzzled mind.

"White man," said the little fellow, "please tell me what river you wash in, and can I wash there, too?"

This opened up a subject dear to the missionary's heart, so he explained to those little African boys and girls that the color of our skin doesn't make any difference with God, but the color of our hearts. A white man's heart may be just as black as an African's, but when cleansed with the blood of Jesus, an African Christian's heart will be just as white and pure as that of a white Christian. But he went on to tell that only the blood of Jesus can wash away sin's stains, and the longer we go on in sin, the blacker our hearts will get.

The missionary told the little African boys and girls that they should not seek to have skins white like the white man, but that they should seek to have their souls made whiter than any white man's skin by believing in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour, and being cleansed in His precious blood.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

"For skins of every color,
From lands between the poles,
Are welcome to God's heaven
If they have blood-washed souls."

Jesus died for little children,
All the children of the world:
Red and yellow, black and white,
All are precious in His sight;
Jesus died for all the children of the
world.

**"It is not the will of your Father
which is in heaven, that one of
these little ones should perish."**

Matthew 18:14

MEMORY
VERSE

**"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid."
Isaiah 12:2**

A Song From The Sea



Sandy was a Christian fisherman in the North of Scotland. One day when he was returning from a fishing trip, suddenly there came on a terrible storm of wind which overturned his boat. He and all the crew were thrown into the water.

Sandy's son was drowned before his eyes, but he himself managed to keep afloat and drifted far away from the other men.

He could not see any land; his strength was failing, and he felt that before long he would be in the presence of the One whom he loved and had served for many years.

With the little strength that was left he sang:

Lord Jesus! to tell of Thy love
Our souls shall forever delight,
And sing of Thy glory above,
In praises by day and by night.

Sandy was nearer land than he imagined. In a little village on the coast some fishermen were surprised to hear the sound of singing being wafted across the waves. Darkness had fallen; they could see nothing. But a boat was hastily manned, and the men followed the sound of the singing. They were just in time. Sandy was rescued, taken ashore and put to bed.

The next day the villagers came to see the man who had been found under such extraordinary circumstances. Sandy rose and dressed, though still suffering from the effects of the many hours spent in the cold water, and mourning the loss of his dear boy, he went to the living room packed with people.

He told them what had happened and preached the gospel to them. He told them that there was a time when he realized he was a sinner. But he learned that, "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." 1 Tim. 1:15. Trusting in the Saviour, there resting his soul upon His finished work upon the cross, he knew what it was to be cleansed by His precious blood and saved.

"Verily, verily I say unto you, he that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24.

Lost And Found

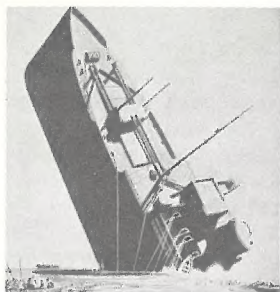


A tiny baby was found in a basket on a doorstep. They carried her to the local hospital and the nurses all fell in love with the little thing. They took her to their home and called her Mary Lost.

The nurses taught her about Jesus who loves and died for little boys and girls. While still a little child Mary opened her heart to the Saviour and became a Christian. She was a "new creature in Christ Jesus."

After that Mary went on her own to the superintendent of the nurses' home and told her she didn't want to be called Mary Lost any more. "Jesus has found me," she said, "and now I want to be called Mary Found." And so she was from then on.

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it. And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." Luke 15:4-6.



Where Do We Go From Here?

Years ago the American troop-ship, Tuscania, filled with young American soldiers, was sunk off the coast of Ireland. It is said that as the ship took the fatal plunge, many of the men sang lustily, "Where do we go from here?"

How sad that so many dear boys, the flower of our nation and the joy and hope of many hearts and homes, should pass into eternity not knowing where they were going. And yet Scripture is so plain.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13.

Dear reader, if you were facing death, what answer could you give to the question, "Where do we go from here?"

If you were asked the question,
"Where will you go from here?"
Could you give back the answer,
With confidence and cheer:
"Trusting in Christ, my Saviour,
Who bought me with His blood,
I'll go from here to heaven;
I'll be at home with God?"

Others are coming to Him!
Oh take Him while you may!
Cast all your doubts behind you,
And come to Christ today.
Then should Death sound your
summons,
You need not have a fear.
Receive Him as your Saviour,
And go to Heaven from HERE!

Find a hidden message by blocking out the following letters - D, F, H, K, L, P, W.

W Y E P M U S T H
B E D L F B O R N
P L A G A I N K L

No Half Crowns



In England a Christian was preaching the gospel to a crowd gathered on the street corner. A man, driving past, shouted, "Sir, you'll be getting a half-crown for that job!"

"No, sir, you're wrong," replied the speaker instantly. "The Lord Jesus doesn't give half crowns. He gives whole crowns to those who serve Him faithfully." And we read that in heaven they will cast their crowns at His feet. (Rev. 4:10.)

Here are some of the crowns promised in Scripture:

"A crown of rejoicing" (1 Thess. 2:19); "a crown of righteousness" (2 Tim. 4:8); "a crown of glory" (1 Pet. 5:4); "a crown of life" (Jas. 1:12).

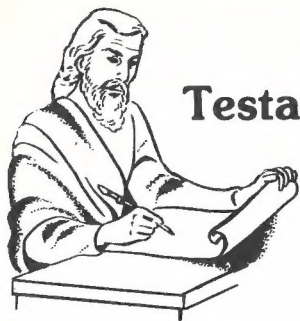
Bible Searchers



We are now in the book of Ruth in our Bible Questions for Young People and Adults. In the Scripture Search for Children and Early Teens we are in Luke. If you would like to join us in answering these questions, write for Bible Searcher worksheets to be mailed along with your regular subscription to Messages of the Love of God. We will send you back issues from May when the new year began.

We are thankful for all who answered the Bible Searchers last year. We trust your reward reached you safely. We hope, too, that you will continue to read your Bible every day and fill out your worksheets. Mail them in as promptly as possible.

If you live far away and your Bible Searchers are late in arriving, answer the Questions and mail them in as soon as you can. You will still receive full credit. There is no reward, however, for any answering less than four times.



New Testament Men John

John was one of the twelve apostles. He and James (called *the Greater*) were the sons of Zebedee and his wife Salome, who was sister to Mary, the mother of our Lord. Zebedee was a well-to-do fisherman, owning boats and nets and hired servants. Of him we hear little, whereas his wife is often mentioned. John, who was thus nearly related to Jesus, had been a fisherman, and he and his brother were surnamed by Him "sons of thunder" — they were fearless, impulsive characters.

A good deal may be learned of the daily life of John. Let us take Mark's account of him. It was from the shores of the Sea of Galilee, from mending nets, that John was called to follow Jesus, and then his name appears in the list of the apostles. He was one of the three who were called to follow Jesus when He raised the twelve-year-old daughter of the ruler; and he was of the same three when they beheld a very different scene — the Lord's transfiguration, a sample of the kingdom of God coming with power. "We were eye witnesses of His majesty," one of them wrote later on.

It was John who told the Master that they had seen one casting out devils in His name, and had forbidden him so to do; and again, John and his brother came asking to sit on either side of Him in glory. Both these occasions called forth memorable words from the Lord, but James and John earned the displeasure of the other disciples the last time. John was of the four who asked Jesus in private the question to which Matthew 24 and 25 give us so interesting an answer as to future events.

The rest of John's history may be filled up with his own gospel, where we learn that during the last supper, which he had been sent with Peter to prepare (Luke 22), he was lying on Jesus' breast, and near enough to inquire who it was that should betray Him. We also learn that John was an acquaintance of Caiaphas, and thus gained entrance into the palace of the high priest where Jesus was; he brought in Peter, too. The touching scene on the cross when the Lord committed His mother to John will never be forgotten, nor that after the resurrection he was the first disciple who arrived at the sepulcher, though Peter entered it before him.

At the Sea of Tiberias, whence John had been called to follow the Master, he is betrayed into following Peter "a fishing" again. But John first recognized the Lord on the shore, and was then a witness of His closing hours on earth. He was one of the 120 who awaited the coming of the Holy Ghost in an upper room at Jerusalem (Acts 1), and later on with Peter he cured the lame man, and was imprisoned in consequence. Then when Samaria received the word, he was sent thither with Peter to ensure for Gentiles the gift of the Holy Ghost.

In Revelation John describes visions at Patmos, an island in the Grecian Archipelago, whither he was banished "for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ," and where it is believed that that book was written. His three epistles may have been sent from Ephesus, which again became his abode after his exile, and was possibly the place of his death, A.D. 100.

"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."
1 John 4:9

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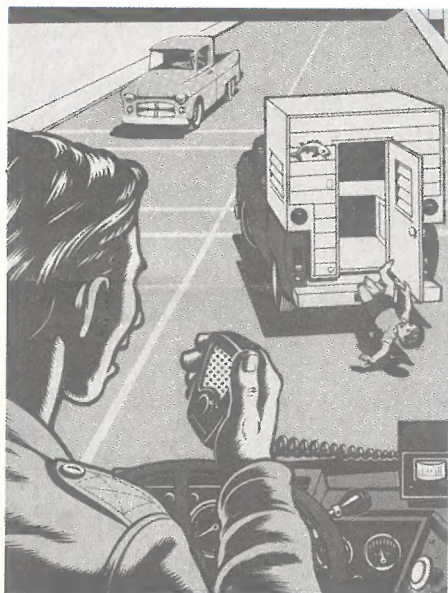
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Messages of the Love of God



Close Call On The Turnpike

"Breaker, breaker, how about a base? I have an emergency!"

"Go ahead, you've got your base!"

Such was the sudden startling conversation that C.B. owners picked up as the big trucks rolled on through the night.

Ron Clark was both owner and operator of his own rig. Heading east on the Ohio Turnpike about 12:00 midnight he had come up with a camper traveling in front of him. Nothing seemed unusual, but as he watched intently, he noticed a small child open the rear door of the camper and fall out.

A skilled truck driver, Ron was able to bring his big rig to a halt in seconds.

Without a moment to waste he jumped from the rig to assist the child. He did not know what he would find as he walked toward the still small figure. Would he find the child badly mangled, or possibly dead?

As he neared the body, the child reached out and spoke to him. Surprised that the boy was conscious, he knelt beside him. There seemed to be no visible signs of a fall.

The boy's first words were not of concern for himself, but for the trucker. "Are you a Christian?" he asked.

Ron was impressed with the boy's deep concern for him and replied, "Yes, I am a Christian."

Immediately the boy seemed relieved. By this time another trucker had stopped to assist, but everything was under control.

Mr. and Mrs. Danston were traveling on the turnpike that night, while their two boys slept in the camper. Walking in his sleep, David had crawled over his brother, opened the rear door and fallen out. While he was falling, he saw the truck coming and immediately took action to avoid getting hit. The boy only received a fractured wrist and was released from the hospital that same night and taken home to rest.

The Danstons were a Christian family. The following night they were having a Bible study and prayer meeting in their home. They were praising God for His care over David and for sending Ron just in time to rescue their dear boy.

While they were praising God, the doorbell rang. To their surprise it was Ron. He had a very serious look on

his face. They knew he was concerned about their boy, but this went deeper. Ron explained how David had asked him if he were a Christian. Ron had said he was when actually he was not. They went upstairs where David was resting, and there Ron heard the gospel, how that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23), that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; He died for Ron, too, and if he would but believe on Him, he, too, would be saved.

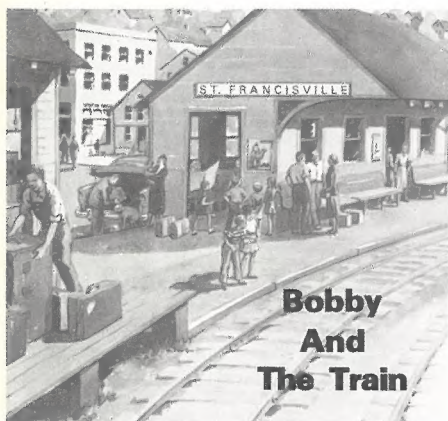
Ron went on his way, and it is not known if he received Christ as his Saviour. We can only hope that he will be among the redeemed who will sing the Saviour's praise in heaven in that coming day. But it was evident

that that night he came face to face with God.

Maybe God has spoken to you as He did to Ron. "For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not . . . He keepeth back his soul from the pit, and his life from perishing." Job 33:16, 18. Do not turn a deaf ear to His pleadings. God loves you; Christ Jesus died for you. You can be saved NOW, and forever. Tell Him you are sorry for all your sins, that you want to have them all blotted out by His precious blood, and that you really mean what you say.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9.

(Adapted from the *Highway Evangelist*)



Bobby, who was just four years old, and his little sister, had been left in the care of a neighbor while their father and mother went into the city on the train.

Hearing that his parents would be coming home on the next train, little Bobby slipped out of the house when no one was looking and started off to the station, as fast as his little legs could carry him.

Arriving there he heard the whistle of the train away down the track. Unaware of his danger, he started off down the line to meet the train. He just knew that his father and mother were on that train, and he couldn't wait to see them again.

It so happened that Jimmie, the paper boy, standing on the platform caught sight of the little fellow running up the track. At the risk of his own life Jimmie jumped down on the track, seized Bobby and sprang up onto the platform again just as the train roared into the station.

When Bobby's parents stepped off the train, they saw a large crowd gathered around a small boy - it was their own Bobby. They were soon told the story of how he nearly lost his life, and you can imagine how both mother and father thanked God as they hugged and kissed their little lad. You may be sure, too, that Jimmie came in for unbounded grateful thanks and a reward for saving their dear little son's life.

If you have not trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you, too, are in danger, dear reader. Bobby did not realize his peril, and perhaps you do not either. It is a solemn thing not to be saved, when judgment, like a train coming down the track, is on the way.

But there is One who loves you and whose outstretched arms will immediately reach out and lift you to a place of everlasting safety, if you will only let Him. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

The Old Home



Charles and Harry lived with their parents in a home in the country. Their father and mother were dear Christians, but the boys did not follow on in the path of faith their parents trod. When they grew up, both boys went to work in the city and prospered, but they left God out of their lives. On occasions they would visit their old father and mother in the country.

The time came when their parents both went home to heaven. Their boys decided to tear down the old farm house and build a summer home there.

But one day as they walked around the old home, they entered the living room, and Charles sat down in a chair.

Harry walked back and forth in front of the fireplace.

"Harry," said Charles at last, "I've changed my mind. We can't tear this old house down. It is too filled with sacred memories!"

"I've been thinking the same thing, Charles," returned Harry. Then he pointed to the chair where his father used to sit. "There's the old chair Dad sat in when he read the Bible to us in our family worship. Here are the chairs where we knelt when he used to lift up his heart to God and pray for us!"

A long time the brothers stayed in the old home and talked things over. It seemed that God by His Spirit was speaking to them both, for finally they got down on their knees by the old chair where their father had sat. Tears began to flow, and they both wept out their hearts before God in true repentance for their sins of many years.

When Charles and Harry returned to the city, they went back as saved men, ready to spend their lives and their means for the Lord.

The old house was left standing just as it was. Many a happy hour the boys spent in happy memories of the past, while they looked forward to meeting their dear parents in heaven.

Word Search - Women of the Bible

Try to find the names of these Bible women in this word search. They may be backwards, up or down, across or diagonal. Circle each name when found.

N P R I M A R E Y R A M I
V A Z C L B V S E L L O H
E C I N U E A H A E Y E A
U E P H N H T U R A D S R
N M P T A S A P P H I R A
I O O E E M A R T H A E C
H L R B I E I R A G L B H
T A A A H S A N A M I E E
A S H S C B N H M H Z K L
N I Z I P A G R U A R A M
E O L L H H D A U P T H O
S L I E N A O M I R I A M
A U E D O F C A S O D Y L



Asenath
Dorcas
Elizabeth
Esther
Eunice
Eve
Hagar
Hannah
Leah

Lois
Lydia
Martha
Mary
Miriam
Naomi
Orpah
Priscilla
Rachel
Rahab
Rebekah
Ruth
Salome
Sarah
Sheba
Sapphira
Zipporah

New Testament Men



Paul

To write a complete history of Paul in these pages would be impossible. Noted men have spent years in studying his life, and in writing most interesting volumes on it, many of which may be read with profit.

Of Saul's parents we only know that they must have been in a position to afford their son all the advantages of his time. He was born at Tarsus — "no mean city" (Acts 21:39); he was a Roman freedman, of the tribe of Benjamin (as was his namesake, the first King of Israel), and a strict Pharisee. He was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, the famous master of the day; but according to Jewish custom, he was also taught a trade, and learned to make the camel's-hair tents, for which the province of Cilicia was famous.

We are introduced to Saul as a "young man" (Acts 7:58, 22:20), at whose feet the cruel murderers of the first martyr, Stephen, deposited their clothes. He gave his voice against the followers of Jesus, although he did it ignorantly (1 Tim. 1:13). Saul appears as "a blasphemer, persecutor, and injurious"; and it is worthy of note that the last picture given us of his life shows us Paul, the persecuted one; he changed characters and places. "Paul, the aged," is in a Roman prison, awaiting his summons to appear

before the brutal Nero, having been once already delivered out of the mouth of the lion; he is in chains, he has only Luke with him, and asks for a cloak (winter is approaching) and his books (2 Tim.).

What a scene! Who shall fill in the details of all that happened between his first appearance and his last? His own account of his life may give us some slight idea of it (read 2 Cor. 4:7-12; 6:3-10; 11:21-33); and who could ever be tired of following the graphic recital of his missionary journeys by his devoted friend and companion, Luke?

Paul was not one of the twelve who had companied with Jesus when on earth, though he was none the less an apostle, because when he was converted on the road to Damascus, he saw the Lord in glory as really as Peter had seen Him on earth (compare Acts 1:21 and 1 Cor. 9:1). An apostle evidently is one that must have seen the Lord, though the word is used very occasionally for disciples (Acts 14:14). Paul was an apostle of the circumcision or of the Jews. After his own nation had put from them the Word of God, he turned to the Gentiles, for so, said he, has the Lord commanded (Acts 13).

His epistles, many of them written in prison, form a unique collection of letters, for which we shall always have to thank God. No human pen has produced such among any ancient writings. Their chronological order does not concur with their place in the Bible. 1 Thessalonians was the first written, and 2 Timothy probably the last, while something like twelve years elapsed between them. Most were written to churches or assemblies, others to individuals whom he loved. His warm heart is shown by his many greetings to absent friends.

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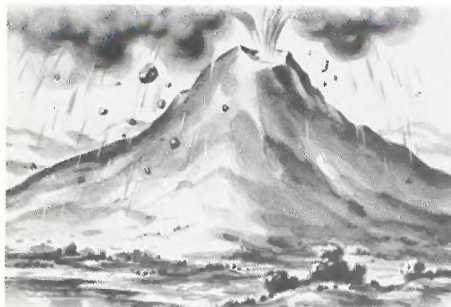
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Too Late!



A volcano called the Soufriere was located on the northwest section of St. Vincent, a beautiful green windward island in the West Indies. Although this volcano was mostly dormant and had not erupted for many years, every so often rumblings could be heard from within. Such activity gave warnings that fiery forces were building up within the bowels of the volcano and that a full scale eruption might take place.

Now, when volcanos erupt, they may do so very suddenly. Often with little warning, red-hot molten lava will be spewed out, raining fiery destruction on every living thing in its path. In order to prevent people from perishing in such a disaster, the government of St. Vincent appointed a guard to be "keeper of the Soufriere." Brother Edwards, a dependable Christian man was chosen for this important position. Mr. Edwards lived in a little house on the slope of the small mountain which contained the volcano. It was his responsibility to warn the neighbors to flee to safety when especially violent rumblings signaled the likelihood of a volcanic eruption.

In a similar way, dear reader, God has appointed workers in our time who are warning sinners to flee to Christ, the only place of safety. Also the Bible contains many warnings of judgment to come. "Flee from the wrath to come." Matt. 3:7; and "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night . . . the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Pet. 3:10. Just as man could not predict the day that the Soufriere would erupt, so man cannot predict the day that God's judgment will fall on this world of sinners.

"Watch therefore; for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh." Matt. 25:13.

One morning, Mr. Edwards arose as usual, read his Bible, asked God's help for the day. He was just finishing breakfast when he heard the ominous rumblings. As he listened, the rumblings grew louder and louder. Realizing that the volcano was about to erupt, he immediately left his breakfast and ran down the slope shouting for all the local residents to flee to safety.

Some laughed at him saying, "We've heard these rumblings all our lives and nothing has ever come of it." Others said, "There isn't any hurry because if the volcano does erupt, it won't for several days yet, so we are going to save as many of our belongings as we can. We have lots of time!"

"No!" "No!" Mr. Edwards shouted. "Leave now for the volcano may erupt at any moment!" A few people believed Mr. Edwards' message and retreated with him to safety down the

mountain side. Sad to say, many rejected or neglected the warning, some even making fun of those who heeded the alarm.

Suddenly the volcano erupted with a violent roar, spewing out red-hot lava. Many of the unbelieving neighbors perished in the fiery destruction, some were cut off as they were trying to escape at the last moment! Too late!

Dear reader, this is only a very faint picture of the terrible eternal destruction that awaits the multitudes of unsaved souls who have neglected or rejected God's warning of judgment to come. Do you believe the warnings of Scripture? Scripture plainly states that the only hope of escape is in Christ. Acts 16:31: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

Put your trust in Christ today before it is too late! "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

Scripture Puzzle

To solve: Put letters from each column into squares directly above them to form a scripture verse. The letters may not necessarily go into the square in the same order as they are given.

B	E									
N	E	C	O	U	R	O	G	G	O	A
B	D		S	T	R	A	N	E		O
D			O	F		A	G			

						N	O	T		
B	T	Y	S	O	L	R	O	W	F	
T	O	O	S	T	R	F	O			
	H	A	M	E		N		T		

Saved



Mrs. Carter was nearly 100 years old. She had a little friend, named Joanne, who visited her every few days and did small jobs for her around the house.

Joanne was a Christian, and she loved to tell old Mrs. Carter about the Lord Jesus who came into this world to save sinners. The old lady would listen very carefully and then proceed to tell Joanne all the good things she had done. She hoped that her good deeds would one day get her into heaven. Joanne was grieved that her old friend persisted in this reasoning for she knew the Scripture says:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8, 9. "There is nothing we can do to merit salvation," Joanne told her, but Jesus has already done it all on the cross.

Joanne prayed for her old friend, asking the Lord to save her even in her last hours.

One day after Joanne finished washing the dishes, she sat down on the sofa with old Mrs. Carter to read her stories from the Sunday school paper. What was her surprise and joy to hear the old lady say,

"Do you know that I was saved just last week? I came to the Lord Jesus just as I was, and He saved me."

A few weeks later this dear old lady passed peacefully away to be with the Lord Jesus. Her last words were, "I'm going Home now!"

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Just In Time!



A fire was raging in a large building. It was thought that all had escaped when suddenly someone saw a man hanging by his hands from a window in an upper story. They quickly brought a ladder, but it was too short to reach him. A fireman climbed up as far as he could and called to the man to drop down to him. But he did not answer - alas, he was deaf and dumb.

How sad to be so near certain death, and yet deaf to the offers of salvation!

But there are many boys and girls and older folks, too, who are deaf to the offers of salvation for their souls. Are you one of them, dear reader? The man in our story needed to be saved from a burning building; you need to be saved from a burning hell. He needed salvation for his body; you need salvation for your soul. Do not turn a deaf ear any longer to the voice of the Spirit, but hear the warnings of love and be saved.

With great difficulty a brave fireman climbed up so that he could touch the foot of the poor man and attract his attention. Praise God! He was saved just in time!

The fire of God's judgment is before those who die in their sins, but God has provided a way of escape.

"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" Heb. 2:3. One must own himself a guilty sinner deserving punishment and believe that the Lord Jesus came down from heaven and bore his sins on Calvary's cross.

Believe and you will be saved, dear reader - saved from an endless hell, and saved to spend eternity with that precious Saviour who loved you and gave Himself for you.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

Word Search - Paul's Journeys

In this word search try to find the names of these places to which Paul traveled in his journeys. The names may be backwards, up or down, across or diagonal. Circle each name when found.



A I N O D E C A M A L T A
Z L L C A E S A R E A C D
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T R A V E L S W Z E M O R

Greece
Corinth
Galatia
Phygia
Ephesus
Troas
Miletus
Tyre
Malta
Rome
Crete
Nicompolis
Spain
Paul
Saul
Travels

New Testament Men

James



Following the King James Version and order of the New Testament, brings us to James as the next of its authors or writers.

That there were three disciples of the same name seems clear:

1. James (and John), son of Salome and Zebedee, called *the Greater*.
2. James (and Josès), son of Mary and Cleopas, called *the Less*.
3. James (and Josès, Simon, Judas), the Lord's brother, called *the Just*.

It is with the last named that we have to do here, inasmuch as he is the author of the epistle called after him. He was not one of the twelve apostles. In John 7:5, we read, "Neither did His brethren believe on Him," showing that James was not among the followers of Jesus at that time. Many think that he only became a disciple after the crucifixion; perhaps, indeed, he is the James to whom the Lord appeared (1 Cor. 15:7) after His resurrection, an interview of which we have no other record.

That the Lord's brethren had witnessed some of His mighty works (see Matt. 12:46; 13:55; Luke 8:19; John 2), and that they were at last really converted, is evident from the fact that they were gathered with the apostles at Jerusalem, awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit.

In the upper room then we start with James (Acts 1:14), and he seems to have made Jerusalem his abode until his death or martyrdom, which took place shortly before the siege of Titus. Perhaps James 5:6 is his own way of speaking of it. Josephus tells us that he was stoned to death by the Jews, and adds that this crime was punished

by the destruction of the city. Others say that he was thrown down from the temple and afterward slain — so it seems clear that he was martyred.

James certainly occupied a place of power in the early Church in that city, and hence he has often been styled its bishop or overseer. After the great persecution at Stephen's death, believers were scattered from Jerusalem, except the apostles, among whom the Lord's brother was chief. A great company of priests there were obedient to the faith, and thousands of Jews believed, but were still under the law of Moses, and had not given up frequenting the temple and the synagogue. It was a moment of transition or change, and it required time for a Jew to comprehend that Christ was the end of the law, and that God was no longer dwelling in their beautiful temple made with hands, and still standing.

Paul went to Jerusalem after his conversion to visit Peter, and only saw James besides (Gal. 1). At the conference there later on, at which Paul and Barnabas were delegates, James could say, "My sentence is . . ." etc. (Acts 15.) Paul calls him a pillar, and refers to his influence over Peter (Gal. 2). Then when Paul went again to Jerusalem (Acts 21), he declared to James what God had wrought by him, and received advice from him which may be questioned; but we must remember the influence the temple and Jewish observances exercised over the dwellers in that city.

These facts show us the place James occupied, and it is from this standpoint that he writes his epistle. His subject is — "The practical life of the poor of the flock, who still frequented the synagogue; the denunciations against the rich unbelievers." He desires that the "external practical life should correspond with the inner divine life of the Christian," which, indeed, we ought all to seek after. "If ye *know* these things, happy are ye if ye *do* them." James writes to the whole people of Israel, to whom the promises of God were being presented in the gospel.

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Messages of the Love of God



Having Fun

A large mother hippopotamus was playing with her baby hippo in the Nile River one day. What queer tricks they performed. Standing on the bank of the river was a crowd of dark-skinned natives who watched the performance with great excitement and delight.

Now the young one was wallowing in the river - now riding on its mother's back. What fun they were having splashing around in the water!

Suddenly something very surprising happened. All at once mother hippo opened her huge mouth very wide and the baby jumped inside, disappearing from view as the mother's jaws closed. What happened? Had she swallowed her baby? If so, why? There was no apparent reason, but mother hippo must have sensed some danger in the river, and this was her way of shielding her baby from harm. Obviously, her mouth was large enough to enable her to close her jaws without hurting her baby.

Sometime later when the danger seemed to have passed, mother hippo

opened her mouth again and baby hippo came out safe and unharmed.

Kangaroos, too, have a wonderful way of protecting their young. Mother kangaroo has a little pouch in which she carries her young. Wherever she hops the little one is taken in comfort and safety, being able at the same time to peep out and enjoy the view. Any person foolish enough to try to interfere and harm the baby would be driven away quickly by a blow from the mother's powerful legs.

How wonderfully God has provided even dumb animals with wisdom. What precautions they take against danger. So in everyday life, when we see danger threatening, our first thought is to find a refuge or shelter. How true and up-to-date is our Bible, for it says, "A prudent man foreseeth the evil and hideth himself: but the simple pass on and are punished." Prov. 22:3.

How foolish we would be if we saw danger and did not take precautions. And yet there is evil and danger, unseen by natural eyes, but which is

MEMORY
VERSE

"The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him."

Nahum 1:7

far more solemn than that which can be seen. It is the danger of eternal punishment against sin which awaits all those who know not Christ as their Saviour. All who believe on Him are safe from judgment.

Have you, dear reader, taken refuge in Jesus, the only Saviour of sinners? He is the Rock of Ages, even as the psalmist could say,

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strong rock in whom I will trust." Psalm 18:2. "Flee from the wrath to come." Matt. 3:7.

**"Daddy,
Is God
Dead?"**



Mr. Harvey had once professed to be a Christian, but he had gotten away from the Lord and become a backslider.

One day his little girl looked up earnestly into his face and inquired, her lips quivering the meanwhile, "Daddy, is God dead?"

"Why, no, my pet," he replied. "Why do you ask that?"

"Why, Daddy, 'cause you never talk to Him now like you used to," she answered with emotion.

These words from his little girl went home to the father's heart like an arrow; they haunted him day and night. Finally he broke down before the Lord, confessed his sin and failure in neglecting prayer and reading his Bible, and the Lord graciously restored him to communion, joy and peace with Himself.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven. For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost." Matt. 18:10, 11.



**Lost
Susie**

Little Susie and her mother and father were attending a Bible conference. After supper was an open air street preaching across the street and Susie's daddy went to the meeting. Susie asked if she might go with him, but he told her she must stay by her mother.

However, Susie thought her own ideas better suited her purpose and, quietly stealing away from her mother's side when no one was looking, she went to find her daddy. She hadn't noticed which way her daddy went and she walked the opposite direction. On she went hoping to find him, but alas, he was nowhere to be seen.

Meanwhile the street meeting ended and daddy returned to the conference ground.

Little Susie walked about two miles down the road in search of her daddy. Then finally a car pulled up beside the curb and an elderly couple asked the little girl where she was going.

"To find my daddy," she replied.

"And where is your daddy?"

"At the meeting."

At last after some questioning they took her to the police station.

Meanwhile, Mother and Daddy were frantic and everyone was searching for Susie. Finally they went to the police station and there was poor, disobedient little Susie. How glad she was to see her dear father and mother again!

You and I are just like Susie, dear young reader. We were lost, and the Lord Jesus had to come to seek us. He tells us in His Word, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Without Him we would all be lost and on our way to judgment. But the Good Shepherd loved us and died for our sins. When we meet Him and trust Him as our Saviour, then we are "found," and He will never let us be lost again, for He keeps us safe forever.



It was growing dark in the old barn, and to little Freddie straying in and out of the fading afternoon light it looked more shadowy still.

But someone was moving about in the hay overhead, and the little fellow came to the foot of the ladder and called out:

"Is you up there, Grandpa? I want to come up."

"All right, come along then," was the cheery response.

But the little foot paused at the foot of the ladder, and a troubled face was lifted up toward the dim loft.

"Grandpa, I can't see the top step," came the small voice again.

Then came a reassuring laugh from above. "Put your foot on the rung where you are, little man, and climb up. The last step is here; you'll see it when you get to it." Thus assured, Freddie mounted the ladder and soon felt himself lifted into the mow by Grandpa's strong arms.

It was only the old lesson we need over and over again. How often we want to see the end from the beginning. But the path of faith is one step at a time. We must take the first step and trust God for the next. He will give light for each step at a time. He does not always give us to see the end from the beginning, though He does assure us that all will be well.

The path of faith through the darkness of this world will soon be over for those who love the Saviour. The Father's house of many mansions is at the end of the way. Soon He will send His beloved Son to usher us into those bright courts of love and light and song, where we shall enjoy His presence forever. May this be the hope and comfort of every reader.

"As thou goest step by step, I will open up the way before thee." Prov. 4:12. Hebrew Trans.

Prayer

ACROSS

1. The ——— fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16.
6. A good prayer for a sinner: ——— me for Thy mercies' sake. Ps. 6:4.
7. Ask of God, that ——— to all men liberally. James 1:5.
8. In ——— thing by prayer. Phil. 4:6.
9. In the ——— will I direct my prayer unto Thee. Ps. 5:3.
10. Praying ——— with all prayer and supplication. Eph. 6:18.
12. The Lord will receive ——— prayer. Ps. 6:9.
13. Prayers ——— and day. Luke 2:37.
15. His [the Lord's] ——— are open unto their prayers. 1 Pet. 3:12.

DOWN

2. Laboring ——— . . . in prayers. Col. 4:12.
3. Give ourselves ——— to prayer. Acts 6:4.
4. Call unto Me [the Lord], and I will ——— thee. Jer. 33:3.
5. If we ask any thing according to His will, He ——— us. 1 John 5:14.

10. Ye . . . receive not, because ye ask ———. James 4:3.
11. A good prayer for any unconverted: God be merciful to me a ———. Luke 18:13.
14. In everything ——— thanks. 1 Thess. 5:18.

New Testament Men



Peter's history is very interesting, but much too full of detail to enter upon except in part.

Simon, and Andrew his brother, were among the first called to follow the Lord. They were fishermen, partners with James and John, and plied their boats on the Sea of Galilee. To Simon the Lord gave the name *Cephas*, which means a *stone*, as does also Peter. He was foremost among the twelve Apostles. His name always comes first in the lists of them, and it is believed that he was older than the others.

Peter, James and John were occasionally singled out by the Lord: they alone saw Him raise the daughter of *Jairus*; and they were asked to watch with Him in Gethsemane, and, alas! they slept instead. We may feel inclined to be disappointed with Peter when we think of this and other events in his life, and yet it was to such as he that the Lord said, "Ye are they which have continued with Me in My temptations." Would we say that to one that we knew would forsake us at the sorest moment of trial? But Jesus, who knows all, knew that they loved Him, and what it may have cost them to follow Him so far. That Peter was not afraid of the Lord is evident from the frequency of his remarks to Him, and it is interesting to notice how often he is addressed by name by Him.

In thinking of failing Peter and his denial of the One he loved, we must remember that he had not the Holy Ghost dwelling in him as he had after the day of Pentecost and that hence he was weak. The Lord said, "Ye shall receive *power* after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me" (Acts 1).

When Peter was so undaunted in the presence of the persecuting Jews in Acts, he was asked "by what *power* or by what *name*, have ye done this?" Filled with the Holy Ghost (the power), he replied, "by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead has this been done." Ah! he was not ashamed to confess Him then; neither ought we to be who have the Holy Ghost.

Peter was the Apostle to the Jews, or of the circumcision, and he wrote to them. We have no scriptural proof that he was ever at Rome, but church history asserts that he suffered a violent death there during the reign of Nero. Certain it is that he knew he was to end his life thus, "even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shown me," he says. Moreover, the description of his end (John 21:18) seems to point to crucifixion—any way, he glorified God in it (v. 19).

To Peter were given the keys of the kingdom of heaven—to open or shut, to bind or loose. You may notice in Acts how remarkably he used them. He opened the door by baptism on the day of Pentecost to 3,000 Jews; he wrought the first miracle by "loosing" the lame man; he "bound" Ananias and Sapphira; he opened the door to Cornelius, the first Gentile convert, and explained to the Apostles how God had granted the Holy Ghost to the Gentiles. Of his subsequent life we have few details.

Yes, leave it with Him,
The lilies all do,

And they grow -
They grow in the rain,
And they grow in the dew -

Yes, they grow:
They grow in the darkness, all hid in the
night -

They grow in the sunshine, revealed by
the light -

Still they grow.



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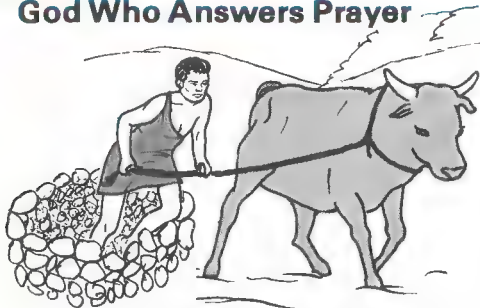
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Messages of the Love of God

God Who Answers Prayer



He was only a poor goatherd in Southern India. His hours were long and his work toilsome. He rode an old ox which he had trained and brought up, and the flock followed him in the true Eastern custom.

One of the difficulties the shepherd had to encounter was the lack of water. To find a well was a most welcome occurrence.

A day came when the poor goats had been without water for some time. Leaving the ox with them, the shepherd wandered a long time in search of water.

Suddenly he came upon an old well, among some ancient ruins. While he was looking down to investigate, the edge of the well gave way and the shepherd fell some feet. However, he was caught upon a ledge and his life was spared.

Somewhat bruised and half stunned, the poor man began to collect his thoughts. He was truly in a pitiable plight, more than a mile from his faithful ox and the flock of goats. He was not able to climb up the side of the well and not a soul could hear his cry for help.

Just then he heard a hissing sound and, though it was growing dark, he

saw something moving below in the bed of the well. It was a mass of snakes! What was he to do? In the hour of his extreme danger, he remembered that when he was a boy there had come into his native village a missionary. Although he had not taken much heed, he went to hear the white teacher speak.

One thing he remembered the missionary had said, and that was that in the hour of danger or trouble, a certain wonderful Lord Jesus Christ would hear and answer prayer. With a childlike faith, in agony and fear, the poor man prayed to the Lord for help.

After praying for some time, he seemed to have fallen asleep. Some hours later he woke up and found it was dawn - the darkness had gone! Something was touching his head. He looked up and saw the face of his old ox looking down at him, and it was the rope dangling from the faithful animal's neck that was touching his head.

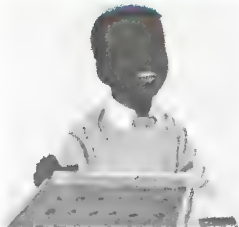
Grasping the rope he called to the ox to back away. Thus he was pulled from the well. In answer to his prayer God had sent his ox to find him and saved his life.

It was this experience that brought the goatherd to trust in the Lord, and he became a faithful follower of His. He devoted his life in testifying to his people of that wonderful God who answers prayer.

"As for me, I will call upon God; and the *Lord* shall save me." Psalms 55:16. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee." Psalms 56:3.

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me." Psalms 50:15.

"I Listened Right Off"



A missionary in Africa was telling some native children the gospel story of the king who made a marriage for his son and invited many people to come to the feast. He told them of how many who were invited did not seem interested and did not accept the king's kind offer.

The missionary explained how that God has prepared a marriage feast for His beloved Son, and that now through the gospel He was inviting sinners to come to the feast that love has spread. But how sad it is that many do not heed the gospel call; they are satisfied with earth and the pleasures of this world.

However, one of the larger boys at the school told the teacher afterwards that he wanted to follow Jesus, and another little boy, named Sammy, said he wanted to do the same.

"Have you felt for some time that Jesus has been calling you?" asked the teacher.

"Oh no," replied Sammy; "it is only today. But I listened right off when He called."

"Right off" is the time to answer, dear boys and girls—as soon as you hear His call.

The Lord Jesus says, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28. "Come, for all things are now ready." Luke 14:17.

"Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." Rev. 19:9.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

"Is Your Horse A Christian?"



Dick was a young farm boy. He had a friend who was an earnest evangelist. One day he spoke to Dick about his need of the Saviour.

Dick told his friend that he wasn't such a bad fellow and added: "I have been doing a great many good things lately."

"Well," said his friend, "I have no desire to dispute that, but your good deeds will not earn you salvation, nor are they proof that you are a Christian." Dick was quite surprised, but his friend went on.

"You own that horse over there, don't you?"

"Yes, I do."

"Does he not do many good acts?"

"Why, yes!"

"Is your horse a Christian?"

"Well," replied Dick thoughtfully, "about as much as I am, I guess."

He saw the point, and admitted that a good act in man or beast is a good thing, but nothing more. It is nature and not grace; mere virtue and not holiness. A good character is a good thing, education may be a good thing, clean thoughts and pure acts are a good thing; but these things, good as they are, will not carry a man to heaven. Until we turn to God and are cleansed from our sins in the blood of Christ, there can be nothing for God to put to our account.

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags," saith the Lord (Isa. 64:6); "and the plowing of the wicked, is sin." Prov. 21:4.

What a sinner needs is the Saviour and the robe of righteousness which God Himself provides for all who come to Him in faith, owning their unworthiness but trusting in His mercy. All is found in Christ.

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Saved Over The Telephone



Harry Bright was deeply concerned about his soul's salvation, but he was determined to fight off his convictions. He stayed away from preaching of any kind, and carefully avoided getting into conversations of a religious nature.

One day he was in an office and asked permission to use the phone. It seems the line was still in use, for when he picked up the receiver, the sound of children's voices filled his ear. Some little children were singing:

"What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear..."

This appeal quite overcame Harry; the message went right to his heart. He could not hold out on God any longer. Right then and there he determined to surrender to Christ. And surrender he did. He found the Good Shepherd who gave His life for the sheep was still seeking him, and the lost wanderer was found at last. God used the voices of those little children as a means to His blessing.

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:7.

Jimmy



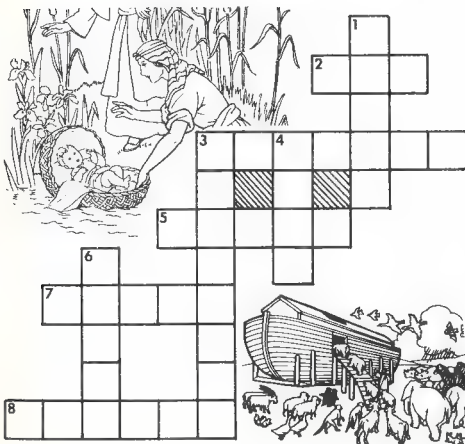
The doctors and nurses hovered over little Jimmy. There was a questioning look of anxiety on his mother's face. Why did Jimmy look so sickly? He was only six years old — the morning of life! But the doctor had just announced that Jimmy had a brain tumor and had only one year to live.

Dear little Jimmy, his life had just begun. Oh dear young friends, let us remember that verse, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Prov. 27:1.

How important it is to be saved while we are young! Tomorrow may never come! Take the Lord Jesus as your Saviour now, receive Him into your heart by faith and you will be saved both now and forever.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Rom. 10:9.

A "Saved" Crossword



DOWN

1. A baby boy who was saved from dying in the river. (Exo. 2.)
3. A man who was saved from a burning fiery furnace. (Dan. 3.)
4. A man who was saved from perishing in a flood. (Gen. 6 & 7.)
6. His name means Saviour. (Matt. 1.)

ACROSS

2. A righteous man who was saved from the destruction of Sodom. (Gen. 19.)
3. People Christ Jesus came to save. (1 Tim. 1:15.)
5. A woman who was saved by putting scarlet thread in her window. (Josh 2.)
7. He was saved from sinking in the waves of the sea. (Matt. 14.)
8. He was sent to Egypt to save people from dying in a famine. (Gen. 45:7.)

New Testament Men

Jude



There are many men spoken of in the New Testament named Jude or Judas, and of two of these it is difficult to determine which was the author of the Epistle of Jude.

"Judas said unto Him, Lord, how is it that Thou wilt manifest Thyself to us?" John 14:22. This is probably the apostle called "Judas . . . of James" in two of the lists of the twelve (Luke 6:16; Acts 1:13). In the other lists he is called either Lebbaeus or Simon the Canaanite.

Another Judas was the Lord's brother. (Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3).

But, you will say, the Jude who wrote the epistle was the "brother of James." Yes, but *both* these men answer to the description. The Lord's brethren were "*James, Joses, Simon and Judas,*" and the other Judas being also "of James" may have been brother or son to the other James. It is, however, generally believed that the writer of the epistle was brother to the Lord and to the James of Jerusalem.

In any case, we are glad he wrote us a letter, and that God has preserved it for us till now. Think of a letter more than 1800 years old—a letter, too, which speaks of events which occurred 4000 years before it was written! It tells us, too, of terrible things that are to happen in the future, so that it spans an immense space of time. It is all very well for so-called clever men to say nowadays that they do not rely on the Old Testament, and for scoffers to assert that they do not believe in the Lord's coming. Here is a man who was alive on the earth with Jesus, and who puts his seal on the Old Testament and quotes the words of a saint about the Lord's coming, who lived 4000 years before him.

It is wonderful how many inspired histories Jude refers to: the departure

of the children of Israel from Egypt, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the burial of Moses, and the stories of Cain, Balaam and Korah. He even knows the genealogy from Adam to Enoch! Could any better proof of the inspiration of the Bible be wanted? Would any *man's* word have lived so long? Would a human pen reach our hearts and consciences in the same way? God says His Word is like a hammer. (Jer. 23:29.)

Jude wrote to people who were in danger of forgetting (v. 5) what they had learned of God's Word. So are we; therefore, verse 21 is applicable to us all: "Keep yourselves in the love of God." Though we *are* "preserved [kept] in Jesus Christ" (v. 1) yet there is the other side. We are to watch and pray and read, making use of the helps God has given us, and so be ready to praise "Him who is able to keep us from falling" (v. 24).

The mention of the fallen angels is interesting, as also the allusion to the dispute concerning the body of Moses. Peter and Jude tell us that there were long ago angels who sinned, and sought to be something more than God had made them, and that now they are in chains, awaiting judgment. We know that everlasting fire is prepared for such.



Ruth the Moabitess

Ruth the Moabitess is the beautiful story of how a poor Gentile came into blessing through that wonderful character, Boaz. And this illustrates the precious gospel story - how a poor sinner, without hope and without God in the world, may find blessing and rest in Christ, the true Kinsman-Redeemer, who, when all was lost in the fall through sin, redeems all back to God.

We are now in the book of Ruth in our Bible Questions for Young People and Adults. If you would like to join us in answering these questions, write for Bible Searcher worksheets to be mailed along with your regular subscription to Messages of the Love of God.

Messages of the Love of God

**All
Well!**



A Chaplain's Story

The battle was over, and hundreds of men had been killed and wounded. A soldier came to my tent and said, "Chaplain, one of our boys is badly wounded and wants to see you right away."

Hurriedly following him I was taken to the hospital and led to a bed on which lay a fine young fellow.

I could see at a glance that he had but a few hours to live on earth, so taking his hand I said, "Well, my boy, what can I do for you?"

The poor dying young fellow looked up into my face and placing his finger in his hair he said, "Chaplain, cut a big lock from here for Mother; for Mother, mind, Chaplain!"

I hesitated to do it, but he said, "Don't be afraid to disfigure my hair, Chaplain. It's for Mother, and nobody will come to see me after I'm gone." So I did as he requested.

"Now, Chaplain," said the dying boy, "I want you to kneel down beside me and return thanks to God."

"For what?" I asked.

"For giving me such a mother!" he replied. "Oh, Chaplain, she is a good mother. Her teachings comfort and console me now. And, thank God, that by His grace I am a Christian. Oh what would I do now if I wasn't a Christian? I know that my Redeemer liveth! I feel that His finished work has saved me. And, Chaplain, thank God for giving me dying grace. He has made my dying bed feel soft as downy pillows are. Thank Him for the promised home in glory. I'll soon be there - there where there is no more war, no sorrow, nor desolation, nor death - where I'll see Jesus, and be forever with the Lord."

I knelt beside the dying boy and thanked God for the blessings He had bestowed upon him, as he requested. Shortly after the prayer he said,

"Good-by, Chaplain. If you ever see Mother, tell her it was 'ALL WELL!'"

Prince Bernadotte



In Norway once an American traveler had taken a berth on a night train. He complained when he found he had been given an upper berth on

the sleeper; he thought he should have been given a lower.

But the man who had the lower berth, though a complete stranger said, "I'll change with you. You take my lower berth." The American accepted.

In the morning the traveler cheerfully greeted the American. He was glad to meet him. "And I hope," he said, "you will remember Prince Bernadotte! I am on my way to carry the gospel to the 'Laplanders' —who live in the land of the reindeer."

The American blushed, for he was ashamed when he found so distinguished a stranger had taken such a humble place for his sake.

"I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth." Eccles. 10:7.

"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich." 2 Cor. 8:9.



Christ In All The Scriptures

A friend of mine was walking with a small boy across the park. "Do you go to Sunday school?" he asked.

"Yes," replied the little fellow.

"What did your teacher talk about last Sunday afternoon?"

"Oh, he was talking about Jacob."

"And what did he talk about the Sunday before that?"

"Oh, he talked about prayer."

"Well, did your teacher not talk about Jesus?"

"Oh, no," said the little fellow again, "that's at the other end of the Book."

Now I hold that Jesus is not only at the other end of the Book, but He is at the beginning of the Book, and all through the Book. Every chapter, every verse, and every incident may somehow lead to Jesus.

"Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He [Jesus] expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." Luke 24:27.

Carmen's

New

Baby



Carmen the cat lived with the Mendez family in Arizona. She had a little family of her own in a box in the corner of the kitchen.

One day young Juan came home with a tiny little ground squirrel that lay limp in the palm of his hand. "Look, Mother," he exclaimed. "I found it out under a bush; but it's almost dead."

"Poor thing," said his tender-hearted mother. "Something must have killed its mother, and it is starving."

Juan asked if he could keep it. "But how?" said his mother. "It's too little to eat lettuce, and how could we keep such a tiny thing alive?"

Just then Carmen the cat strolled in and walked toward her box. Then Juan had an idea.

"Mother, let's give it to Carmen. She'll raise it along with her babies."

"Cats are natural enemies of ground squirrels," said Juan's older brother. "Carmen would kill it."

However, Juan put the little thing among the kittens in the box and watched to see what would happen. Carmen was purring contentedly.

When she saw the little stranger, she sniffed him all over; then pushing him aside, she called her babies to dinner.

But the starved little ground squirrel sensed that food was near and crawled over to the mother cat, hoping to get in on the feast. Again Carmen cuffed him away, but again, driven by hunger, the little fellow came back to try again.

Finally, while Carmen was busy washing one of her kittens, the tiny stranger made contact and began to nurse. From then on Carmen accepted the new baby as one of her own.

The little fellow thrived on such wholesome fare, and strangely enough he became Carmen's favorite. He was much more active than her own babies and could frisk in and out of the box long before her own could. Juan named him Frisky.

Frisky loved to jump on top of his big white mother and ride around her back. He would climb chairs, and the family had to watch carefully lest they sit on him. Sometimes when he was climbing a chair Carmen would grab his tail and pull him down.

Juan and his brothers and sister loved to play with Frisky. He would climb up and sit on their shoulders, and when he scolded and chattered in his little squeaky voice, he would make them all laugh.

Frisky was accepted as one of the family. By and by when he was on his own he made a tunnel in the back yard for his home. Then he found a mate and they had a little family of their own. Carmen would often pay them a friendly visit.

As I read this story of Carmen and

Frisky, I could not help but think of how God has taken into His family poor famished, friendless, lost and unworthy sinners. But He doesn't simply wait for them to come to Him; He goes out after them. He sent His beloved and only begotten Son into this world to be our Saviour, and Jesus left His home in the glory and came "to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10.)

Thou didst attract the wretched and the weak,
Thy joy the wanderers and the lost to seek.

The proud Pharisees reproached the Lord saying in scorn, "This Man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them." Luke 15:2. But the Lord replied, as it were, "I go further than that. I go out and seek them and carry them home."

All those who trust in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour are born into the family of God, "taken into favor," "accepted in the Beloved," and share in all the joys and privileges of the heavenly family. They are loved, nourished and cared for down here. They have a home in heaven prepared for them. Soon the Lord Jesus will come and take them there to be with Himself for ever. Do you belong to this heavenly family, dear reader?

A Simple Crossword For Little Ones

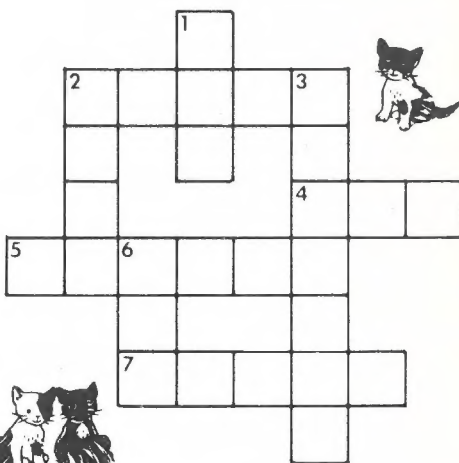


DOWN

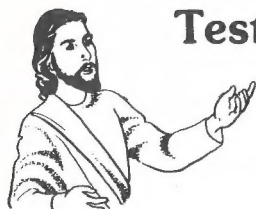
1. Jesus is the Son of ———. (Luke 1:35.)
2. The Lord Jesus tells sinners to "——— unto Me." (Matt. 11:28.)
3. Who did Christ Jesus come to save? (1 Tim. 1:15.)
6. How many people have sinned? (Rom. 3:23.)

ACROSS

2. The Lord Jesus died on a ———. (John 19.)
4. When should we come to the Lord Jesus? (2 Cor. 6:2.)



5. Where will the Lord Jesus take those who love Him? (1 Thess. 4:16, 17.)
7. Name one kind of people that will be in hell. (Rev. 21:8.)



New Testament Men

Timothy

Timothy, or Timotheus, the receiver of two epistles from Paul — the first written perhaps from Macedonia, about A.D. 65, the second, from his Roman prison — was the son of a Greek father (whose name is not given) and a Jewess called Eunice. Evidently the father died while Timothy was young, and Eunice and her mother, Lois, brought up the boy Timothy to know the Scriptures. Prophecy had already pointed him out as the receiver of a gift from on high (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6); and the elders and Paul confirmed this (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6).

Derbe and Lystra were (Acts 16) cities of Lycaonia, a province of Asia Minor. It was probably at the first named that Paul found Timothy, for the Revised Version reads (Acts 20:4) "Gaius of Derbe and Timothy"; or it may be read "Timothy of Derbe." The brethren of the whole neighborhood knew him and commended him to Paul as a companion in his travels, but, before starting, Paul circumcised him according to the law of Moses, the reason given being "because of the Jews." Perhaps he was acting on the principle of 1 Corinthians 9:20, as he did on several occasions.

From Acts 16 to 20 Timothy frequently appears. He was with Paul at Berea, Athens (1 Thess. 3), and Corinth and accompanied him to Asia. It is easy to see how Paul loved and valued him: "My work-fellow," "my beloved son and faithful in the Lord," "our brother and minister of God, and our fellow-laborer," he calls him, besides all that he says to him in his letters. From them we learn that he was Paul's son in the faith; that, in spite of his youth, he was left in charge of the church at Ephesus, that he was

weak in health and usually only drank water (would that all young Christians were as careful about strong drink as he was!), and that he was probably of a shy and retiring disposition. When so many had turned away from the aged Paul—all in Asia, Demas, Alexander, etc.—how glad Timothy must have been that God had enabled him to *continue* in the things he had learned and that he could thus be a comfort to one to whom he owed so much!

In the first epistle Paul hoped to go to him "shortly" (3:14), but in the second he was in prison at Rome and begs Timothy to come "shortly" to him and to bring Mark and his cloak and books and parchments before winter. Timothy himself is *said* to have been martyred at Ephesus in the reign of Domitian.

There is much that might be dwelt on in the lowly life, and certain personal details in the second epistle not to be found anywhere else, besides the interesting journeys of Timothy and Paul—all this must be left to our young readers to search into. But let us each ask ourselves, Am I seeking to walk in the steps of this young man? Could any servant of Christ find me of use to him in his service to the Lord? Young Christians ought to remember Paul's words, "give attendance to reading"; (See 1 Tim. 4:12-16.)

I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? Psa. 118:5, 6

Are you standing at "Wit's End Corner"?
Then you're just in the very spot
To learn the wondrous resources
Of Him who faileth not:
No doubt to a brighter pathway
Your footsteps will soon be moved,
But only at "Wit's End Corner"
Is the "God who is able" proved.

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